

ABSTRACT

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TRANSMISSION AND RECEIPT OF CONFERENCE CALL ROSTER INFORMATION VIA THE INTERNET

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An apparatus and method is disclosed that allows a participant in a conference call to receive conference call roster information at a telephone display unit, at a computer display or at both types of display. The conference call information is updated during the call and includes identification of the speaker during a conference call. The conference callers are connected together and identified either by standard caller identification or by other identification provided by the operator. The conference callers' identifications are then transmitted in two ways. First, a coded signal is sent over the telephone connection to a telephone display unit. Second, an information packet is transmitted over the Internet to a conference call participant's computer.

10 A server computer monitors the conference call and the identification of parties involved is updated as parties are added or disconnected. The speaking party is identified in one of two ways. First, during the call, the speaker's telephone line will have a higher transmission amplitude than the other telephone lines and the line with the highest transmission amplitude will be identified by the server computer. Second, voice identification data is gathered before the conference call

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20 and stored in the server computer for use in identifying the speaker.